

THE
Hollanders Decla-
ration of the affaires
of the East
INDIES.

OR
A TRVE RE-
LATION OF THAT
WHICH PASSED IN THE
Ilands of *Banda*, in the East
Indies: In the yeare of our
Lord God, 1621.
and before.

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A TRVE RELATION
OF THAT WHICH PASSED
IN THE ILANDS OF BANDA, IN
the East Indies : In the yeare of our
Lord God 1621.
and before.



ALL the Ilands of *Banda*, from the tenth of August 1609. were by a speciall treaty & agreement made with the *Orang-cayas*, or Magistrates of the fore-said Ilands, were put vnder the protection of the high and mighty, the States generall of the vnited Prouinces, on condition to defend them from the Portugall, and other their Enemies, provided that they of the said Ilands are bound to deliuer vnto the Fort called *Nassau*, or vnto the Committees of the said Company, all their fruits or spices at a certaine price, and so forth, as by the said treaty of agreement more at large appeareth. These articles of agreement, being for a time by them performed, were afterward broken and violated,

lated, as well in keeping backe, and with-holding the said fruits and spices, which they were tyed to deliuer to the Netherlands Company; as also enforcing and robbing their Warehouses, and contrary to solempne treaty and promise, murdering at fundry times and places, diuers of the principall Officers, Committees, and Seruants of the said Netherlands Company, in taking away diuers small Ship prouision, their open inuading of the places and Countries, withstood also lately vnder the subiection of the high and mighty, the States generall and in conquering the inhabitants thereof, whom with a strong hand they forced from being Christians to become Mores againe, or those which withstood or gaine-said them, they sold as Slaues, and in committing all kinde of peruerse wickednesse and trechery: during which passages & doings, there was again certain contracts on the aforesaid conditions agreed vpon, with the said Bandaneseis, as in May in the yeare 1616. by one of the Netherlands Commanders called *Lam*, and by their Gouvernour Generall *Lawrance Reaell*, in the yeare 1617. which indeed were shortly after broken and violated by the Bandaneseis, and that through the animating by the English, who did openly ayde and assist the fore-said Ilands, and maintained them in warrage, the Netherlands Company with victuals, and Munition, great Ordnance, Men, and Ships, thereby to withhold from vs the fruits and spices, which the Bandaneseis were tyed to deliuer. In this wilfulnesse
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the Bandaneseis continued, till in June 1620. Till that at Iaccatra was published both amongst the English and the Netherlands Fleet, then riding there in the Road: the treaty concluded and agreed vpon, betweene his most excellent Maiesty, the King of great Britaine, and the high and mighty Lords the States generall, for to reconcile vpon certaine conditions, the English and Netherlands East India Companies.

The which Treaty, and by conference of handling concerning the Molluccoes, Amboyna, and Banda, all disputes and differences betweene the English and the Netherlands Company concerning the same, were to that time abollished, and a generall force of Ships of Warre was ordained betweene them, for the defence of both Companies in their rights, and the commerce which they had obtained in the Indies.

The Reduction of the wilfull Bandaneseis vnto the Netherlands Camp, was hindred a yeare or two, through the actuall proceedings which the English in Banda it selfe, since the yeare 1616. and afterwards in the yeare 1618. About the coast of Iaua, and whole India through, by open hostility did attempt: whereby the aforesaid Bandaneseis being encouraged, and made bolder, did withdraw themselves wholly from vnder the subiection of the Castle of Nassaw, doing vnto vs and ours all wrong and hostility, and with-holding from vs their fruits (to say) Nutmegs and Maces, which they did not onely
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sell vnto the English, and to the Indians, but also to the Portugalls, who are both their and our Enemies, with whom they seeke to make neerer aliance of friendship, as already in the great Iland named Banda, were come fifty or three score Portugalls, who by some more assistance, considering the naturall force of the said Iland, would haue beene sufficient to haue depriued both the English and the Netherlands Companie of the rights therein, and the fruits thereof, without hope hereafter to haue any redresse.

In regard of those inconueniences, after the publication of the contract that was made, the Generall of the Netherland company, in the common Counsell for defence, (consisting of English-men and Netherlanders) propounded the necessity of the taking of Banda, as also of the redressing and assuring of those Quarters, and of the trade in Amboyna and Moluccoes, to the which end, both the Companies according to the contract were bound together, to vse all the force and power that he could, for the preservation of the places, as much as concerned the trade, for both the Companies. And it appeareth by the Act made by those of the said Counsell for defence, bearing date the first of Ianuary 1621. *stilo noua*, that the English Committies there declared, that the necessities of the businesse was well knowne vnto them; as also that they were very willing together with vs, to doe some common exploit: but for that as then, they wanted both power and meanes
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of men and ships, that they could not for that time furnish any thing towards the same: Whereupon, the Netherlands Gouvernour Generall declared, that with the particular power of the Netherland Company, he would take the same in hand, and effect it in such manner, as God should be pleased to prosper his proceedings.

And to that end, vpon the 13. of Ianuary, the Gouvernour Generall went from Iacotra to Amboyna, where he ariued vpon the 14. of February, and from thence went to Banda, to the Castle of Nassaw, lying in the Iland Nera, vpon the 27. of February 1621. In the meane time, one of the English Counsell for defence, that had beene at Iacotra vpon the first of Ianuary 1621. and was priuy to the contract made, lying then in Amboyna, when the Gouvernour Generall went from thence to Banda; sent Letters in our owne Ships to the English-men, lying in the small Iland Puleron, and made knowne and discouered vnto those of Banda, in what manner the Generall of the Netherland Company, intended to assaile the great Iland of Banda: and when the said Gouvernour Generall was come to the Fort of Nassaw in Banda, hee vnderstood that the English-men in Puleron, had ayded them of the Towne of Lantor, in the great Iland of Banda, with 4. Peeeces of great Ordnance; and that if they had had longer time, that the entrance of the Generall of the Netherlands Army into Lantor Hauen, should haue beene let and withstood by a great battery. As also that some Englishmen in Lantor, assisted these of Banda,

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ours and (according to the contract) their enemies, both with counsell and force, encouraging them with their presence, and notwithstanding that the said Generall required the said Englishmen of *Lontor* to leaue the Towne, for the causes and reasons aforesaid, as also for that they themselues, according to the contract and Order made by the Counsell of Defence, before that time might not buy any Fruit in *Molucques*, *Amboina*, and *Banda*, as after the publication of the Contract they might doe, and that onely together, and in common places with the Netherlanders, yet some few of them stayed still with them of *Banda*, our common enemies. Notwithstanding also that the Gouvernour Generall protested, that hee was not therein to be blamed, if by that meanes any hurt were done vnto them, being among & with our common enemies, from whom they should & ought to haue seperated themselues.

First, the Gouvernours Generall, determined to assaile the great Island of *Banda* on the South side, (by some called *Lontor*, because the principall Towne is so called) by land in a place called *Luchny*, and to that end caused the Ship called the *Hart* to Anckor thereabouts, which lay not long there, but it was shot at by an English piece of Ordinance, whereby our men were forced to tow the said Ship with a Galley from the shore, and to leaue two Anckors and two Cables behinde them, or else it had beene in great danger of sincking or burning, our men assuring vs, that an English Gunner had shot at them, and that they perfectly descryed and saw him, although the English-men seeme to deny it.

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Whereby altering of their first purpose, the Generall of the Netherlanders resolved to land vpon the inward part of the Island of *Banda*, there to encampe themselves, and then to goe vp vpon the Hilles, and there to plant there Ordinance, and to that end vpon the 8. of March, 1621. landing with 17. Companies betweene *Comber* and *Ortatten*, they marched along the shoreside, within the reach of three Pieces of great Ordinance lent then by the Englishmen, and not long before planted there, whereby if they had marched forward many of our men had been slaine, and so wee should haue found no place there to encampe our selues, but the Enemy from the Hilles would haue domineer'd ouer vs, no man knowing what counsell to giue, whereby wee might get vp vpon the hilles. The way whereon about Three yeares before wee had beene, being all intrenched, whereupon the Generall determined to enter againe into his Ship with the whole Army, to take another course. They of *Banda* not once pursuing after vs, but with flowring and mocking let vs goe, and so thinking thereby that they had gotten the vpper hand of vs, most part of them brought their Wines and Children againe into *Lomor*. After these two enterprizes, partly hindred by the English Ordinance, were in that māner crost. The Generall for a third resolution, determined to assaile the great Island of *Banda*, on both sides, that is on the inner side of the Land with 6. Companies, and on the South side with 10. Companies. That they on the Inner side should land an houre before

the others should land, by that meanes to draw the enemy forth, and so to make place on the other side, while a Company of chosen men should land on the North-side, to climbe vp vpon the Hilles, and others in other places of the land should also bee in a readinesse, being 330. persons, whereof 150. were Musketiers, appointed for the manning and asshuring of 30. Boates which the said Company would bring on the South side of the Island.

This was effected vpon the 11. of March, and accordingly 6. Companies by breake of day, went on Land betweene *Comber* and *Ortatten*. Captaine *Vogheel* with certaine chosen Souldiers marching forward, who climbing vp vpon the hilles, found such resistance, that all their powder being spent, they were in great danger to bee spoyled, but being well followed and seconded by the rest, the enemy was forced to retire, and while this skirmish continued, the other 10. Companies landing out of the said 30. Boats, went on shore vpon the South side of *Banda*, in a small Bay, some with Ladders and others without climbing vp vpon the Cliffes, and being gotten vp, they marched to the backside of *Lontor* without any resistance, but onely those that set vpon the first troopes, being some 10. or 20. Musketiers, by whom one of our men was slaine, and 4. or 5. hurt, whereby *Lontor* was taken on the South side by the said 10. Companies, while the other 5. Companies skirmished with those of *Banda* vpon the Hills, and assoone as *Lontor* was taken, those of *Madiangi*, *Luchny*, *Ortatten*, and *Sammer*, presently forsooke their Townes

in the said Island. When they of *Banda* saw the aforesaid 30. Boates, they thought wee would haue sayled round about the Land, as wee had done three times before, whereupon making no reckning of our landing, they were sodainly surprized by breake of day.

Assoone as *Lomor* with the rest of the places aforesaid were won, the rest of them of *Banda*, namely *Slamma*, *Comber*, *Owendender*, *Wayer*, and those of the Islands of *Rossingy*, and *Puloron*, made composition with vs, which wee graunted vpon condition, that they should breake downe their Forts and walles, and giue vnto vs their Shor, Pieces and Muskets, &c. Which by them being done, all of them together, according to their Contract and promises, yeelded to holde their Countries and Lands, of the Lords the generall States of the vnited Netherland Prouinces, promising to doe whatsoeuer they should be commaunded, and acknowledge the said Lords the generall States for their Soueraignes, not withstanding their former Oathes taken vnto any others.

Those of *Lomor* and others being first overcome and vanquished, and that saued themselves among others of *Banda*, also asked pardon and sought for Peace, which was granted vnto them vpon the condition aforesaid, though they hardly held the same, and secretly sought to begin a new rebellion, and were commaunded by the Generall to shew themselves all together vpon the Strand, that they might bee appointed in some other conuenient place to

liue as fellow Cittizens freely together, without the losse of their goods which they then had. Whereunto some of them obeyed, but the greatest part fled vpon the high Mountaines in the great Island of *Banda*, to whom also many other Townes resorted, and slew a Netherland Marchant, one other, and a Boy, where they were enclosed and hindred from victuals by our men. By this meanes all the Townes and Places in *Banda* were woone, and made sure, onely *Puloron*, which was not medled withall, because they of *Banda* therein behaued themselves peaceably, for the ayde, or rather the seruice of those of *Puloron*. The English-men planted nine Peeces of Ordnance vpon a small Island in *Puloron*, hauing entrenched the same: and when those of *Puloron*, according to the composition, were to yeeld vp their Armes, and disarme themselves, as they willingly did; yet our Generall did not once speake of those nine peeces of Ordnance standing in the said small Island, because the English-men should haue no cause to make any question, that our men had done any thing against their Fort or men.

The English Commaunder, *Humphrey Fitz Herbert*, with his Ship called the *Exchange*, lying before the Castle of *Amboina*, and hauing intelligence of the Generall of the Netherlands victory in *Banda*, shot off Fourteene pieces of Ordnance for Ioy thereof.

This that is formerly declared, is the true state and proceedings of that, which hath bene done now lately, and before in the Island of *Banda*, where.

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wherein nothing hath beene done, but that which
(according to the Law of Nations, & the aforesaid
Contract, made, and promised to bee holden, and
without any wrong done to the Liberties of the
English Company, agreed vpon with the Compa-
ny of the Netherland) might and ought to
haue beene done.

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